



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *March 2015 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

April 10: Marty Justis, W9WMJ, President of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, will give a presentation on the club.

May 8: Mike Goode, N9NS, will talk about the W1AW/KH8 activation on American Samoa.

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### **Highlights from the March Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 55 present. David recognized new hams: Jill, KD9CLA, and John, KD9CMQ, as well as Bruce, KD9AGH, who recently upgraded to extra.

Announcements: Mark, W9MGB announced that there will be a Marion County ARES team exercise on March 28 at 2:00. This will include an on the air test resource net on the 147.12 repeater.

David, N9KT, mentioned that Jim Brooks, 9V1YC, has put lots of Dxpedition videos on Vimeo, all with HD quality. The Vimeo site (<https://vimeo.com/>) requires registration, but it's free. Once on their site, search for "dxpedition". The annual bus trip to Dayton is \$30 (more later in this newsletter). At the May meeting, N9NS will be talking about American Samoa. The club is currently planning on a Summer picnic the first Saturday in August. More to follow. At the Grover Museum in Shelbyville, there is a radio display in the basement. There are local business displays upstairs. David said that the W9IMS special event stations are gearing up. All W9IMS will be operated remotely this year. The objective is to go for all 4 races, 24 hours per day. Dave wanted to remind people to donate to the club, especially in their wills. Life membership is 10x the annual dues (would currently be \$200).

Mike Palmer, N9FEB, spoke about the upcoming events that he coordinates amateur radio operator support for. (See article later in newsletter.)

Dave said the Indiana QSO Party is coming up May 2, he suggested that folks could operate for Indianapolis Radio Club, and noted that this is the same day as the Mini-Marathon.

Jay, W9TC, said there are indications in DX publications that P5, North Korea is going to be on the air, possibly in February or so.

Next, Dave introduced our speaker for the evening, Tony Tolbert, W9AMT, a former IvyTech student, who works for ERS. Tony introduced those present to DMR radios, saying that DMR is “Saving Commercial Radio”. DMR is the generic protocol for Motorola’s “MotoTurbo” mode, which has revitalized the commercial radio market. “Digital Mobile Radio”, standard for digital voice communications. Tony said DMR is low cost, low complexity, and supports interoperability between manufacturers. There are approximately 20 commercial vendors for DMR gear now. DMR is based on TDMA (Time Domain Multiple Access) channel sharing. There can be 2 simultaneous voice conversations per repeater. Tony showed a cost comparison, showing that DMR is a bit cheaper than Dstar or System Fusion. Currently over 95% of ham DMR repeaters are on 70cm. 2 meter repeaters are mainly on the coasts, due to interference issues with radar. For programming information for radios, as well as repeater locations, go to <http://www.dmr-marc.net/>. Indiana statewide repeater info is available at <http://hoosierdmr.net/>

Concluded and prizes awarded at 8:50 pm

## **Ham Radio News:**

## **DAYTON BUS PLANS**

The club has chartered a bus to the Dayton Hamvention again this year. The day trip to Dayton will be on Saturday, May 16. The bus will have two pick up points: 6:30 am at Southern Plaza, and pick up around 7:00 am at Peddler's Mall on the east side. It will leave from Dayton around 4:00 pm. As in the past, there will be a short stop at McDonald's in Richmond on the way to Dayton for breakfast, and a dinner stop at MCL in Richmond on the way back. The cost for the round trip is \$30 per person, and does not include admission to the Hamvention or either of the meals mentioned above. Tickets for the bus trip will be available at meetings, or by contacting club treasurer Rhonda Curtis,

WS9H. The bus will drop off at the front door of Hara Arena, and be parked in close proximity of the facility so items can be stored on the bus for your convenience. Tickets for admission to the Hamvention are available on their website at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>.

## HAM RADIO OPERATORS NEEDED FOR EVENTS

*As received from Mike Palmer, N9FEB:*

In and around Marion County, hams are involved with marathons, parades, bike rides, and aeronautical races.

I, N9FEB, coordinate many of these events and do all the partnering with Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical, and Event Organizers in order to provide the best supplemental communications possible.

Some of the events take so many ham radio operators, they come from as many as nine counties. This would be the 500 Festival Mini Marathon, using over 75 operators. Other events use fewer, only needing 25 or so.

Many of the hams working these events are growing tired of year after year volunteering and I am in need of new hams.

None of what we do is complex, at least for the most part. Hams are stationed along routes and report accidents, injuries, rider positions such as first and last riders/runners, and other bits of requested information.

Mostly, hams can use an HT. In some positions, improved antennas or higher power mobile radios may be needed instead of the standard rubber-duck. Also, additional batteries and headsets should be had.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mike Palmer, N9FEB at [N9FEB@comcast.net](mailto:N9FEB@comcast.net)

Signups are already underway for the Mini Marathon, 500 Parade, and ADA Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride.

For more information on all the events, please go to [www.indyhams.org](http://www.indyhams.org) and click on Events. There is a FAQ's page available as well.

May - Mini Marathon and 500 Parade

June - ADA Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride

August - Aeronautical Race

September - MS Bike Ride [2-days]  
October - Indianapolis Marathon  
November - Monumental Marathon

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB  
Marion County IN Events Coordinator for Ham Radio  
7461 Hague Rd., Indpls, IN 46256  
(317) 849-3602 home  
(317) 753-8691 cell  
[www.IndyHams.org](http://www.IndyHams.org)

## **TWO SILENT KEYS**

John L. Royer, N9WQT, 68, Brownsburg, passed away Feb. 14, 2015. He was a master electrician, member of IBEW 481, Stage Hands Local 30, had been the producer of the IMS Radio Network, and had been actively involved with the Indiana State Fairgrounds sound and public address systems.

Charlie Sears, N9MEW, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 25, after a short battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Charlie had a long history as a broadcast engineer, and serving as repeater coordinator for the Indiana Repeater Council. He will be missed by many.

## **NEW HIGH PROFILE REPEATERS IN FRANKFORT AREA**

Steve Jones, N9KYB, has put up a new repeater in the Frankfort area (actually Colfax).

The new 147.045 is on the air at its new location. The repeater uses a 173.8 PL. Also N9SFA's UHF pair of 442.575 is being used on the Yaesu Fusion repeater with a 173.8 PL as well. It will work in both analog and Fusion mode. This UHF repeater will be on the antenna side mounted at 200 feet where the DMR repeater is now. A new antenna and feed line was installed at the top of the tower (300 feet) for the DMR repeater. The DMR repeater is at 441.375, code 1.

Hams are connecting with the 2m repeater as far away as Kokomo. Some have been able to hit with an HT from the north side of Indy. It should be accessible from Terre Haute and much of the mid western Indiana.

## **HELP NEEDED FOR INDY HAM FEST BOOTH**

*I received this note from Bob Osterhous, W9PSE. Contact Bob at [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net) if you can help.*

Purpose: 1. To help new hams get on the AIR. 2 Meter Handi display, catalogs, Help sheets .."Elmers" etc.

2. HF Rig on the Air W9JP showing PSK RTTY & SSB Demo

3. DIGITAL Set -up D-Star - DMR Fusion etc. (Live demonstrations) & INFO REMOTE OPERATION

Thus: Need operators and equipment: 3 10 x 10 Tents/ Sun Screen open sides.

3 20 Amp 12 VDC Power Supplies Etc.

1 HF 10-40 Dipole & cables.

1 HF RIG with HRD or software for PSK

RTTY +

SSB

2 - 2/440 Verticals w/ poles and base. + cables.

All types of Digital gear & INFO. ETC.

This set-up is to be in Front of the "Last Year old equipment bldg" on the grass area.  
115 VAC should be available for us.

This is just a preliminary list and ideas for some "HELP BOOTHS FOR NEW HAMS AND TO SHOW NEW CURRENT MODES ETC."

We need operators – equipment & Tents... Let Bob W9PSE know how you can help.  
( This saving the club \$400.00)

## **LUNCH GROUP NEWSLETTERS**

Greg Dean, N9NWO, is now coordinating a Friday Lunch Group, and is putting out a really informative newsletter at the same time. If you would like to get on Greg's list, send him a message at [n9nwo@yahoo.com](mailto:n9nwo@yahoo.com).

## **INDIANA QSO PARTY COMING UP MAY 2**

The annual Indiana QSO party is quickly approaching. The INQP is coordinated by the Hoosier DX and Contest Club, and according to its web page, "The purpose of the **Indiana QSO Party** (INQP) is to encourage contact with Indiana amateur radio stations by other Indiana hams and hams worldwide. Stations outside of Indiana work Indiana stations only. Indiana stations work everybody, including other Indiana stations." It's a fun, 12 hour contest, and you don't have to work the whole thing. It's a great opportunity to put Indiana on the air. For more details, point your browser to <http://hdxcc.org/inqp/>.

## **INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB VE TESTING SCHEDULE**

*(All sessions start at 12:00 noon)*

**April 11, 2015** - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN  
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)

**May, 2015 - No test session - due to all the activities during the month**

**June 13, 2015** - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN  
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)

## **HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$125 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$90 for the unit. Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX  
Contact : [wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com](mailto:wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com)  
Phone: 317 926-2358

## **MORE HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

In order to make room on the shelf, I am selling my Yaesu FT-897D, along with some accessories. I am the original owner of the rig, having purchased it new in July of 2005. At that time, I purchased the radio and the "built in" FP-30B power supply (no noise). Later, in October of 2005, I ordered the LDG AT-897 tuner (not the current "plus" model). Finally, in November of 2005, I installed a SSB filter in the rig. It also comes with the stock hand microphone and manual. As a "bonus", I will throw in the carrying case I have the radio in currently. It's a "road case" attaché that I used to use for a

portable DAT (Digital Audio Tape) recorder, that was repurposed for the radio and its accessories.

My total investment in all this is just under \$1400. I am willing to sell the complete package for \$900, OBO.

Ken Bandy, KJ9B

[kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

(317) 456-4353

## **ARRL SEEKS MEMBER INPUT ON HF BAND PLAN PROPOSALS**

The ARRL is asking members to comment by April 19 on possible changes to the League's HF Band Plans suggested by the HF Band Planning Committee. The survey is part of the committee's efforts to tweak the band plans for the RTTY/data/CW portions of 80 through 10 meters - excepting 60 meters. The committee developed its suggested revisions to the voluntary band plans after reviewing some 400 member comments in response to a March 2014 solicitation that sought suggestions for using the spectrum more efficiently so that data modes may coexist compatibly.

"The committee concluded that most of the concerns voiced by members could be addressed by modest adjustments to the existing band plans, and mainly by confining data modes with bandwidths greater than 500 Hz to the FCC-designated segments for automatically controlled digital stations (ACDS) and to parts of the RTTY/data subbands above those segments," ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ said. His article detailing the committee's suggestions will appear in the April edition of QST.

The League has set up a web page to record members' preferences and comments at, <http://www.arrl.org/bandplan>. Those wishing to offer more detailed comments may e-mail ARRL at, [bandplan@arrl.org](mailto:bandplan@arrl.org). The comment deadline is April 19. The HF Band Planning Committee will deliver its final report at the ARRL Board of Directors' July meeting.

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Jill Kasseebaum, KD9CLA

Johnny Kasseebaum, KD9CMQ

John Kasseebaum, AC9JX

Victoria Rutt, KD9DCD

Kishan Ranasinghe, KD9DCE

Tony Tolbert, W9AMT

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

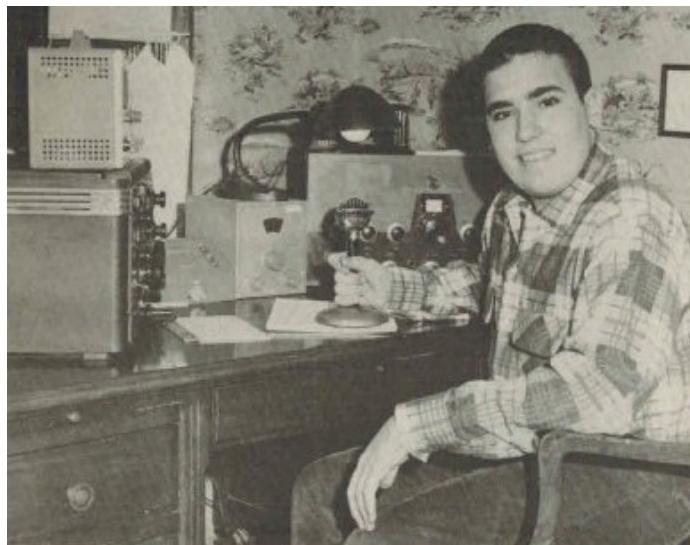
If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

### **Signals from the Past:**

**From the March-April, 1960 *Amachewer*:**



In 1955, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Wolfla had no way of knowing that the spark of interest ignited in their son Hank, by a next door neighbor, would erupt into the roaring interest in Amateur Radio that he has today. Here is a story repeated many times of the boy who really has the “bug”, the burning interest to live, eat and sleep radio, a potential leader in the development of modern electronics.

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## **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- March 28: Columbus Hamfest 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Bartholomew County Fairgrounds. Talk in on 146.79 R (103.5 tone)
- May 2: Indiana QSO Party More info at <http://hdxcc.org/inqp/>
- May 15 – 17: Dayton Hamvention More info at <http://hamvention.org/>
- May 16: Indy Radio Club Bus to Dayton Hamvention

## **2015 Officers:**

- President: Dave Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL [n9kt@arrl.net](mailto:n9kt@arrl.net)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [ws9h.indy@gmail.com](mailto:ws9h.indy@gmail.com)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL [g-17sk7.2@outlook.com](mailto:g-17sk7.2@outlook.com)
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@indy.rr.com](mailto:don9doo@indy.rr.com)